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SOURCE Szabad Nep.SCORES LETDOWN IN PIG-IRON PRODUCTION

Failure to stock sufficient iron ore to meet winter production requirements, combined with a slackening of work tempo, has caused a serious shortage in pig-iron production for the first 2 months of 1952. The deficiency is the more serious because it affects every field of the Hungarian national economy.

Although the metallurgical industries exceeded the plan by producing 20.7 percent more iron and steel in 1951 than during the preceding year, it is a far cry from the 398,000 tons of pig iron produced in 1949 to the 1,280,000 tons which the plan calls for by 1954.

The Stalin Vasmu (Stalin Ironworks) are expected, upon completion, to contribute heavily toward attainment of the 1954 goal; but foundries such as Ozd and Diosgyor, which are already established and capable of processing hundreds of carloads of iron ore daily, will have to supply the bulk of the nation's needs through better planning, organization, and more intensive work competition.

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